

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-29 (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A medical device having at least a coated tube-like portion which is insertable or implantable into the body of a patient, wherein the portion has a first surface and a second surface which are adapted for exposure to body tissue of the patient, wherein at least a part of the first surface is covered with a coating comprising a first biologically active material to be released from the coating,

wherein the second surface is substantially free of the first biologically active material, wherein the coated portion comprises at least one laser-ablated opening extending through the coated portion and

wherein the medical device having the coated portion is manufactured by a method comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a structure having the first surface and the second surface;
- (b) coating at least a portion of the first surface with a first coating material; and
- (c) ablating the coated structure with a laser to form at least one opening extending through the coated portion.

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein the first surface is the outer surface of the tube-like portion and the second surface is the inner surface of the tube-like portion.

32. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein the medical device is a stent.

33. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein at least a part of the second surface is covered with a second coating.

34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 33, wherein the second coating comprises a second biologically active material.

34. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 30, wherein the second surface of the tube-like portion is substantially free of a coating.

35. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing a coated medical device having a coated portion having at least one opening therein, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a metal structure having an inner surface and an outer surface;
 - (b) coating at least a portion of the inner or outer surface of the structure with a first coating material to form a coated structure, wherein the first coating material comprises a biologically active material; and
 - (c) simultaneously ablating through the coating material and structure of the coated structure with an ultrashort-pulse laser to form at least one opening therein.
36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the structure is a tubular structure.
37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the medical device is a stent.
38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein step (b) comprises only coating the inner surface of the structure with the first coating material.
39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein step (b) comprises only coating the outer surface of the structure with the first coating material.
40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein step (b) comprises:
- (i) coating the inner surface of the structure with the first coating material and
 - (ii) coating the outer surface of the structure with a second non-metallic coating material.
41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein the first coating material and the second coating material are the same.
42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the first coating material is a coating composition and the surface is coated by dipping the surface into the coating composition.
43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the first coating material is a coating composition and the surface is coated by spray-coating the coating composition onto the surface.
44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the first coating material further comprises a polymer, wherein the polymer comprises poly-L-lactic acid, polycarbonate, polyethylene terephthalate, a silicone, a polyurethane, a thermoplastic elastomer, an ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, a polyolefin elastomer, a hydrogel, or an EPDM rubber.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the first coating material comprises a biologically active material, and the coating step (b) is conducted by immobilizing the first coating material onto at least a portion of the surface.
46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein the coated structure is ablated to form a plurality of openings therein that define a plurality of struts.
47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, which further comprises cutting the coated structure into sections to form more than one coated portion.
48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 48, wherein the cutting step is conducted between the coating step and the ablating step.
49. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing a coated medical device having a coated portion having at least one opening therein, wherein the method comprises the steps of:
- (a) obtaining a metal plate having a first surface and a second surface;
 - (b) coating at least a portion of the first surface or second surface with a first non-metallic coating material to form a coated plate, wherein the coating material comprises a biologically active material;
 - (c) simultaneously ablating through the coating material and plate of the coated plate with an ultrashort-pulse laser to form at least one opening therein; and
 - (d) forming the coated plate into a tubular medical device.
50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, which further comprises forming a tubular structure from the coated and ablated plate obtained in step (c).
51. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the medical device is a stent.
52. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein step (b) comprises only coating the first surface of the plate with the first coating material.
53. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein step (b) comprises only coating the second surface of the plate with the first coating material.
54. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein step (b) comprises:
- (i) coating the first surface of the plate with the first coating material and
 - (ii) coating the second surface of the plate with a second non-metallic coating material.

55. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the first coating material and the second coating material are the same.
56. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the first coating material is a coating composition and the surface is coated by dipping the surface into the coating composition.
57. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the first coating material is a coating composition and the surface is coated by spray-coating the coating composition onto the surface.
58. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the coating is conducted by immobilizing the first coating material onto at least a portion of the surface.
59. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the first coating material further comprises a polymer, wherein the polymer comprises poly-L-lactic acid, polycarbonate, polyethylene terephthalate, a silicone, a polyurethane, a thermoplastic elastomer, an ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, a polyolefin elastomer, a hydrogel, or an EPDM rubber.
60. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the coated plate is ablated to form a plurality of openings therein that define a plurality of struts.
61. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, which further comprises cutting the coated plate into sections and forming more than one coated and ablated tubular structure.
62. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62, wherein the cutting step is conducted between the coating step and the ablating step.
63. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62, wherein the coated plate is cut as it is ablated.
64. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing a coated medical device having a coated portion having at least one opening therein, wherein the method comprises the steps of:
- (a) obtaining a metal structure having an inner surface and an outer surface;
 - (b) coating at least a portion of the inner or outer surface of the structure with a first non-metallic coating material to form a coated structure, wherein the coating material comprises a biologically active material; and
 - (c) simultaneously ablating through the coating material and structure of the coated structure with a laser to form at least one opening therein.

65. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing a coated medical device having a coated portion having at least one opening therein, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a metal plate having a first surface and a second surface;
- (b) coating at least a portion of the first surface or second surface of the plate with a first non-metallic coating material to form a coated plate, wherein the coating material comprises a biologically active material;
- (c) simultaneously ablating through the coating material and plate of the coated plate with a laser to form at least one opening therein; and
- (d) forming the coated plate into a tubular medical device.